

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1-35 (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) ~~The computer program product of claim 35,~~ A computer program product in a computer readable medium for monitoring use of an instant messaging user account, comprising:

first instructions for receiving an instant message;

second instructions for determining if a log of the instant message is to be stored;

third instructions for storing the log of the instant message in a storage device if the log of the instant message is to be stored; and

fourth instructions for providing the log to a designated monitor of the instant messaging user account;

wherein the second instructions for determining if a log of the instant message is to be stored further include:

instructions for looking up a user identification of a source of the instant message in a user database;

instructions for determining if a log field indicates if a log is to be stored;

instructions for looking up a user identification of a destination of the instant message in an approved contact list; and

instructions for determining that a log is to be stored if the user identification of the destination does not appear in the approved contact list.